as an archetype of the beautiful, but also fixes it in the higher context of an autonomous, self-perpetuating truth which is a kin in its power and potency to destiny itself. In other words, in her wider consciousness, as in organic art, beauty presses itself continuously through a charmed field of truth to become joined to Beatitude. By renouncing the life of widths, Milly affirms in herself, and through herself in others, the life of depths.

Milly is dear to the world because of her "paying power" in an almost Veblenian sense. The Denshers and the Kates of the world nestle under the wings of the dove for economic protection. They would continue to enjoy her wealth, but they would be made to realise that MHiy is angelic by virtue of her inestimable spiritual qualities. The Wings of the Dove are precious, not because they have soft, downy feathers but because they enable the Dove to soar to great spiritual heights. The "beautiful delusion" of MiHy's happiness is violently shattered by Lord Mark's exposure of Densher's hypocrisy. Mark tries to woo and wed Milly unsuccessfully, and, at the instigation of Kate, he reveals the truth to Milly. Envy betrays hypocrisy,, but love forgives them both. Milly "turns her face to the wall" and dies, but before her death she sends for Densher and forgives him. Once fully conscious of her own destiny, Milly exercises her selfhood in favour of its spiritual ultimate, namely, charity. In a predatory and selfish world, where there is no reciprocity of love, Milly can only "give/' but not receive things. She tells Mark who comes courting her, "1 give and give and give - there you are; stick to me as close as you like, and see if I don't. Only I can't listen or receive or accept - I can't agree. 1 can't make a bargain."[18]

A greedy and compromising world, in its philistine self-assurance, has taken it for granted that Milly too is greedy and compromising; and therefore it is that Kate is eager to know from Densher whether Milly had "remembered him" in her will. Kate fears

that Milly might have taken sweet revenge on Densher for his hypocrisy by leaving nothing to him of her fortune. Milly does not feel that she is too good for the world, but is pained that it has misjudged her. That the world is not barren of virtue, and that it is quite capable of self-knowledge, is demonstrated by Densher, who symbolises the weak and erring but introspective and penitent mankind. By becoming really the Angel, Milly Theaie becomes the unobtrusive, but wholly effective evangel of true love wedded to charity;